

Director of Central Intelligence

Gene Tighe has expressed some misgivings about procedures for producing a national situation report. In this reply, for your signature, we have tried to allay his fear that DIA intelligence will not reach the White House during crises, but we have not acceded to his tacit request that DIA-produced sitreps continue to flow automatically and directly to White House consumers. (What Tighe wants would defeat the purpose of the Scowcroft/Hyland request for a single sitrep.) We hope this will end the correspondence with Tighe on this issue.

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

12 MAY 1976

Lieutenant General E. F. Tighe, Jr., USAF
Acting Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear Gene:

Thank you for your letter concerning our plans to produce a national sitrep in times of international crisis.

I fully appreciate your concern that such a publication might, in some circumstances, inhibit the flow of intelligence to the White House and the NSC; however, let me explain my intentions in a little more detail. I expect a national sitrep to be produced with great dispatch, but I also want it to contain all pertinent information relating to the problem at hand and to accurately reflect Community views, including any Community disagreements about substance. Our purpose, quite simply, is to ensure that high-level readers are able to make maximum use of the flow of intelligence with a minimum of effort. We are responding, in fact, to a request from the President which was relayed to us by Brent Scowcroft and Bill Hyland. The President reportedly desires to be able to focus on one intelligence summary during crises. I would hope that we as a Community will respond to his desires.

Certainly I have no wish to stifle the expression of departmental or agency views. Not only will these views be reflected in a national sitrep, they will continue to be published in departmental publications, which, during crises, will be available to all readers in the White House who wish to receive them.

I very much appreciate your assurance that you will join us to produce the best practicable national sitrep in the most timely fashion possible whenever we are called upon to do so.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

George Bush

IC 76-2297

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